Volusia County Government Activities
March 21 – 27, 2020

Community Services

*Agriculture Extension (AG Center)*

The University of Florida has suspended all faculty travel to site visits and conferences as well as any new research projects through April 30. Extension Services continues to provide in-person assistance to citizens based on the county’s modified public access hours. We continue to answer citizen questions and requests through email (volusia@ifas.ufl.edu) or by phone [386-822-5778]. For more information, contact Brad Burbaugh at bburbaugh@volusia.org.

*Library Services*

Library Services is providing early literacy story times live on the library Facebook page, every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 10:30 a.m.
For more information, contact Lucinda Colee at 386-248-1745

*Votran*

Office staff schedules have changed to four 10-hour days to reduce the number of people in the building at one time. Extra maintenance staff has been hired temporary/part time to perform enhanced cleaning and disinfecting of buses. Fixed route service continues to operate at full service. Ridership is averaging approximately 70-75% when compared to March 2019.
Votran Gold paratransit service continues to operate. Ridership is averaging approximately 40-45% when compared to March 2019. For more information, contact Edie Biro at 386-756-7496.

County Manager’s Office

*Community Information*

Community Information is heavily involved in the communications and activities surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.
For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

Growth and Resource Management

Staff throughout all of GRM have been working both remotely and in office each day to ensure we are meeting the needs of the public. Staff is working on methods of holding electronic meetings of the Planning and Land Development Regulation Commission (PLDRC), Code Enforcement Board, Development Review Committee (DRC) and Contractor Licensing Construction Appeal Board (CLCA).

Environmental Management: Despite the fact that many of Environmental Management’s public programs have been canceled, we are still educating the public about our natural resources. The Marine Science Center is offering Facebook Live educational programs each weekday at 1 p.m. The first event was the spectacular release of 3 green sea turtles into the ocean after being rehabilitated at the center. The Lyonia Environmental Center and the Explore Volusia program will also be offering virtual education opportunities to support the students and parents that are effected by the COVID-19 closures. For more information, contact Clay Ervin at cervin@volusia.org.

Ocean Center

*Events*

In addition to increased sanitation procedures Ocean Center is now partnered with Emergency Management Division as our Exhibition Hall is being used as a logistics center/warehouse for supplies.

We have also reduced staffing and taken on a litany of projects in-house that we normally contract with third party suppliers. Our Operations & Engineering crews have made extensive lists of heavy maintenance and special projects which we would have done over time but now with the event calendar cleared we plan to complete almost 50 projects in remainder of March and April. Our Sales team does remain very busy during this time working to reschedule events and believe it or not we have a couple of clients that are looking to take advantage of cancellations in late May (if restrictions are lifted) by booking sporting tournaments – time will tell if that pans out. For more information, contact Tim Riddle at 386-254-4500 ext: 24514 or triddle@volusia.org.

Public Protection

*Fire Services*

The Public Protection Fusion Center (Public Protection Operations Command Center) has been active with gathering and disseminating information to Public Protection personnel and other fire/rescue agencies within Volusia County.
Continuing with the wildfire preparation of mowing vegetative areas around the buildings and structures along Indian Lake and Tiger Bay Roads. Monitoring the daily and predicted weather for wildfire responses.

**Public Works**

**Coastal**

Coastal Division maintenance and operations staff are conducting more frequent cleaning and sanitizing of beach and coastal facilities to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Beach and coastal park contractor staff including trash pickup and concessions are also practicing common sense measures to prevent the transmission of COVID-19. For more information, contact Jessica Winterwerp at (386) 248-8072, ext. 20356.

**Mosquito Control**

Due to the suspension of arbovirus testing at the Public Health Lab, Mosquito Control has secured an alternative lab to conduct sentinel chicken testing for West Nile Virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). Routine sampling for antibodies to WNV & EEE in the chickens will resume the week of March 30. For more information, contact Suzanne Bartlett, (386) 424-2920, ext. 20272.

**Solid Waste**

The Solid Waste Division has provided employees with PPE, including hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes, and disinfectant spray for wiping down work areas, equipment, and common areas, such as, break rooms. Landfill attendants providing service to customers are also wearing gloves to handle money/credit cards and are taking breaks to frequently wash hands. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at (386) 947-2952, ext. 21347.

**Road & Bridge**

In response to COVID-19, Road & Bridge provided barricades and message boards to the Coastal Division to assist with social distancing at the beach. For more information, contact Benjamin Bartlett at (386) 822-6422, ext. 20470.

**Traffic Engineering**

Reviewed and provided comments to River to Sea TPO for the Dunlawton Ave Feasibility Study and Clyde Morris Blvd Feasibility Study. For more information, contact Jon Cheney at (386) 736-5968, ext. 12709.